

The background of the cover features a close-up of a baby's face, looking intently at a computer screen. In the foreground, a large, stylized globe with a grid pattern is visible, along with a portion of a computer keyboard. The overall color scheme is warm, with yellow and orange tones.

# The Chronicle

Published for the employees of SPAWAR Systems Center, Charleston

**"Hey, that's my daddy! Stay safe, daddy... for me!"**

**See "Internet Cafe" story on page 14)**

**January 2004**





# The Chronicle

SPAWAR Systems Center, Charleston  
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North Charleston, SC 29419-9022

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DSN 588-4021

## SSC Charleston's Mission

What we do: We enable knowledge superiority to the warfighter through the development, acquisition, and life cycle support of effective, capable and integrated C4ISR, IT, and Space systems.

## SSC Charleston's Vision

Where we want to be in the future: We will become the premier provider of C4ISR, IT, and Space capabilities.

**Commanding Officer**  
**Captain John W.R. Pope III**  
**United States Navy**

**Editor: Lynda Silvers**  
**Photographer: Harold Senn**

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Visit our website at [scc.spawar.navy.mil](http://scc.spawar.navy.mil). Click on *About Us* to view *The Chronicle* on line.

# CAPTAIN'S CALL



*Captain John W.R. Pope III, USN*  
*SSC Charleston Commanding Officer*

I'm writing this column during our Thanksgiving week break in the action. It's been a very busy autumn for SSC Charleston, but as I've come to expect, we've executed flawlessly. Let me share a few highlights with you:

Despite some last minute hurdles, the command closed out fiscal year 2003 solidly beating the financial benchmarks that are a measure of how well we execute the resources entrusted to us. This was a cross-command team effort that included contributions from more than a few heroic individuals. For fiscal year 2004, we'll keep the team effort and drive down the need for heroics.

CNO's Echelon II review of SPAWAR. On Nov. 20, 2003, the entire SPAWAR enterprise had its turn to tell the CNO how effectively we support the Navy and Joint warfighters, and about the culture of efficiency in which we operate. The SSC Charleston contribution to this success was again a real example of teamwork. Each command presented three slides to tell its individual part of the story. In addition, SSC Charleston provided inputs to the main brief that highlighted: (1) our contributions that make SPAWAR a Joint C4I provider of choice; (2) our speed to capability in support of the Global War on Terrorism; and (3) the returns to the Navy on the efficient business processes that we practice everyday. The CNO was impressed with our ability to measure the cost of doing business and is interested in our ability to link costs to measurable output. We'll have the chance to expand on this when he revisits SPAWAR this summer.

We've implemented a couple of functional changes to help us focus better on the command's business and to improve how we interact with our many command visitors and stakeholders. The SSC Charleston Board of Directors includes the commanding officer, executive director, department heads, contracts, comptroller, and a rotating assigned division head. This group will meet monthly to focus on command strategic topics and decisions. The Command Liaison Office (Code 0B) has been established to help focus our efforts in support of command visitors and getting out our strategic message. We've had no shortage of visitors interested in SSC Charleston's capabilities and the Command Liaison Office will make sure they get a complete story.

Calendar year 2003 is over, but our activity level isn't. We've successfully equipped and supported this country's war fighters both at home and overseas. We can all be proud of SSC Charleston's ability to rapidly provide critical war fighting capability, while maintaining the highest levels of cost efficiency. Well done to all!

## *From the desk of the Executive Director...*

— *James Ward*



I want to use my space in this edition to pay tribute to our editor, **Lynda Silvers**. Lynda, who has done such a great job with *The Chronicle* and with *The Inside Scoop* on our corporate intranet, has announced her intention to retire at the end of January. I place a high value on those people in our command who make things happen, who are agents of positive change, and Lynda is certainly one of those people. Whether it's supporting the Employee Services Association, leading the Combined Federal Campaign, developing a brochure to tell the command's story, or publicizing the accomplishments of our fellow SPAWARriors, Lynda has readily devoted her energy and talent to getting it done.

The late Phil Roberts (former Code 30A) once gave Lynda a memento from his many years as a Boy Scout leader. It was a coin that carried the inscription "You make the difference." Phil recognized in Lynda someone who truly made a difference by the things she did every day. Lynda framed that coin and kept it on her desk for all that visited her office to see. The inscription on that coin on Lynda's desk was the inspiration for the "You Make a Difference" awards that I present from time to time to employees who, through their exceptional efforts, make a difference in the operations of the command or the lives of their fellow employees.

The Combined Federal Campaign is a perfect example of one of the ways in which Lynda has made a difference, not only in the lives of SSC Charleston employees, but in the lives of countless citizens of the Lowcountry. She volunteered to lead the CFC fundraising effort for the 2002 and 2003 campaigns, achieving record results both years that benefited numerous charities. On any task that came along that required commitment and hard work, Lynda could always be counted on to step forward. It is hard to imagine *The Chronicle* without Lynda's name as editor on page 2. But, although it sounds trite, she has truly earned her retirement. I'm sure you all join me in wishing her a wonderful and fulfilling future as she begins the next phase of her life. Lynda, we're really going to miss you. You have spent the last 11 years writing eloquently about the accomplishments of others. Now it's time that we acknowledge your accomplishments and the superb contribution you have made to our SSC Charleston family.

*Editor's Note: See my farewell message on page 23.*

# Jennifer Watson heads Surveillance and Systems Engineering Department

Congratulations to Jennifer Watson who was recently selected to head the Surveillance and Systems Engineering Department (J30). Jennifer has been a part of SSC Charleston's family since 1998 when she joined the Multimedia Systems Engineering Branch (J732) of the Intelligence and Information Warfare Systems Engineering Department (J70) as a project engineer. Her expertise was quickly noticed and in 2001 Jennifer was selected to head the Computer Services Division (J64) in the Command and Control Systems Department (J60) and relocated to Norfolk, Va.

Jennifer began her career in electrical engineering at the Charleston District of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. She held a number of positions there, including: power systems design engineer, fire protection engineer, value engineering officer, and program and project manager. While with the Army Corps of Engineers, she served a tour of duty in Kuwait during Operation Desert Storm preparing infrastructure restoration damage assessments, designs and cost estimates.

Throughout her career, Jennifer has been recognized for her outstanding service and dedication to the DoD and has received numerous awards, including: Engineering and Science Team Member of the Year at the Corps of Engineers, the Most Outstanding Female Engineer in the Federal Government (presented by Women in Science and Engineering), and was a finalist for Employee of the Year at the Charleston-area Federal Executive Association.

A native of Columbia, S.C., Jennifer holds a bachelor of science degree in electrical and computer engineering from the University of South Carolina and a master of business administration degree from The Citadel, The Military College of South Carolina. She is a doctor of philosophy candidate at the University of Alabama in Huntsville in industrial and systems engineering and engineering management. Her research field is organizational change management.





# Rick Pass is new Tactical Mobile C4ISR program manager

Congratulations to **Rick Pass** who was recently named SSC Charleston's program manager for the U.S. Navy's Tactical Mobile (TacMobile) C4ISR program under the Navy command and control system as J61C within the Command and Control Systems Department (J60). The TacMobile program encompasses over 35 worldwide operational systems and multiple laboratory systems located in Patuxent River, Md., and Charleston, S.C.

The TacMobile program comprises both fixed sites (tactical support centers) and mobile sites (e.g., Mobile Operations Command Center, Joint Mobile Ashore Support Terminal and Reserve Mobile Ashore Support Terminal, and other derivative systems).

As the program manager, Rick is responsible for the total life cycle management of all TacMobile systems (operational and laboratory) and associated subsystems — including technology insertion; ensuring interoperability with Navy, Joint, Allied and inter-agency forces; and providing complete end-to-end support. Rick also coordinates the planning, execution, and coordination of all tasking with the OPNAV sponsors (N78, N612, and N757), Program Executive Office, C4ISR program offices (PMW-157, 165, 155, 161 and PMA-290, 263, 264), fleet requirements offices (Combined Fleet Forces Command, and Commander Patrol Reconnaissance Forces Atlantic and Pacific, allied nations, and industry partners.

After graduating in 1980 from the University of Rochester, N.Y., Rick was commissioned in the U.S. Navy as a naval flight officer on a P-3 Orion Maritime Patrol Aircraft. In 1993, Rick joined NISE East in St. Ingoes, Md., where he was the TacMobile project officer and the detachment's officer in charge until his retirement in 1996. As a civilian contractor, Rick moved to Charleston in support of SSC Charleston. He became a government employee in 1998, and two years later was selected to head the Systems Engineering and Test Branch (J614), where he served until his current promotion.



# Corporate Production

## — from concept to reality

On Aug. 20, Corporate Production (CP) awarded a single source contract, taking corporate production from concept to reality.

With **Pete Van de Meulebroecke** as the corporate production manager and **Steve Lariviere** as the operations manager, CP (J09C) encompasses 90,000 square feet of production space. A similar facility in San Diego, Calif., accommodates the new production process and contracts.

So, what is CP? It is a SPAWAR corporate business capability which consolidates production under a single source contract using government facilities in both Charleston, S.C., and San Diego, Calif. CP incorporates synchronous-flow manufacturing and build-to-order core processes. CP is highly compatible with Force Net spiral development; and up-to-date manufacturing techniques, processes and procedures will be continually used to improve production processes.

CP developed manufacturing work cells for cable manufacturing, rack integration, rack refurbishment, and packaging/shipping/handling using the synchronous flow-manufacturing model. Certified technical specialists staff these self-directed work cells. Additionally, CP provides an integration test and evaluation area, total supply chain management system, scheduling/planning services, and reporting.

SPAWAR leased at least three contractor facilities, used at least 24 government labs, and had more than 191 service contracts performing production functions. In contrast, CP provides two consolidated Government-Managed Contractor-Operated production facilities. By shifting and consolidating production and material management activities across the command, the utilization of CP will make a large impact on cost reduction activities and space utilization. It will eliminate lease costs (<\$500/K/year), eliminate contract transfer costs (<\$150K/contract), and provide on-site rates (25 percent savings), better utilization of refurbished parts (<\$6K/rack), and a consolidation of facilities infrastructure (30 percent reduction in laborer/material handler work force). The single source contract allows for one claimancy-wide contract which will reduce

award and administration costs by an expected \$4.2 million in 3 years, reduce contractor overhead personnel (program manager, secretary, etc), and has production-focused wage rates.

The self-directed manufacturing work cells provide common processes with consistent quality to registered ISO 9001/2000 standards and customer satisfaction measures. Each work cell conducts its operations in the same manner for all SPAWAR products. The benefit of this production process results in reduced installation time, better coordination with the in-service engineering agent, and customer-to-manufacturer feedback.

Tired of uncoordinated and low volume purchases, limited use of common products, disparate material management systems, no asset visibility, high scrap and obsolete waste, high material handling costs, inconsistent configuration management, no integrated logistics management, and drawings and documentation managed separately? Then look to Corporate Production!

CP customers will be able to use the "Total Supply Chain Management System" with bulk purchases, demand-based acquisition, just-in-time delivery, consumable batch processing, synchronous flow manufacturing, and common product utilization—all with a single configuration management tool (CMPro). Already in place are bar code scanners providing immediate asset visibility for all products, materials and equipment within CP's cognizance utilizing CMPro, synchronous layout, a stock service center, strategic sourcing, consolidated purchasing, and a just-in-time material management storage facility.

CP uses synchronous workflow processes to eliminate costly expedites and reduce movement of personnel and material. It provides resource leveling with specialized workforce and multi-shift operations, which will eliminate or minimize slack periods and will keep the high tech employees from doing less technical jobs (keeping busy in the valleys). Costly overtime is minimized by using built-in shifts. Customers can expect a 30 percent reduction in infrastructure labor from material handlers, cable builders, rack integrators, general laborers and administration. CP schedules, plans, reports, and levels the workforce.

# Corporate Production's new 'digs'



**Left: Ken Marion, lead cable technician, cuts wire as part of the cable fabrication process.**

**Right: Front view of the submarine hull appliance for the common submarine radio room program.**



**Below right: David Green, a cable technician, crimps pins on a cable as part of the cable fabrication process.**



**Left: Jacob Delap is preparing to install a beam on the submarine hull appliance for the common submarine radio room.**

**Below left: Overview of the logistics/material storage area for Corporate Production.**



**Below: Overview of the rack integration area.**







# New technology explores 'squid-like' propulsion

By Ismael Cabezas  
Field Assistant for Science and Technology  
Homeland Defense

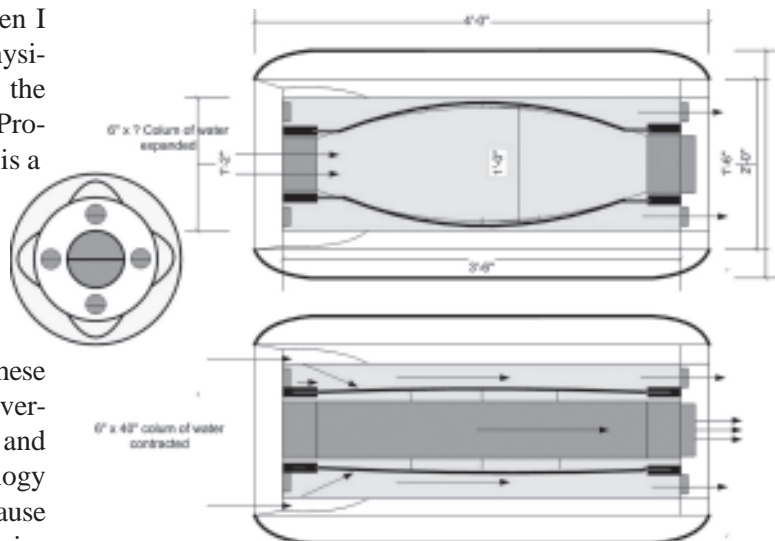
As the war on drugs, terrorism, and the deployment of C4ISR systems escalates, improving unmanned surface vessel technology is a major concern. So, when I was recently invited to attend a presentation by two physicians, Doctors Anthony Ross and Peter Guagliano, the developers and current patent holders for a Marine Propulsion Device (MPD), I was most interested. MPD is a concept Dr. Ross gleaned from observing cephalopod (squid and octopi) movements during several dives.

For centuries, marine propulsion has relied on propeller technology. Internal combustion engines or steam and gas turbine engines have been the only power sources since the first engine-powered vessel. These power sources are complex, involve rotary power conversion losses, and are fuel inefficient. They are noisy, and produce considerable heat. Propeller or screw technology also has the undesirable side effect of cavitations that cause additional inefficiencies and a detectable underwater signature. Since they have internal screws, this is true even with modern water jet technology.

The MPD eliminates these inefficiencies. Its rigid chamber encases an inner bladder. One-way intake and exhaust valves support propulsion on both compression and expansion strokes. Linear motors are the magnetic drivers that promote compression and expansion motions.

On Sept. 30, 2003, under SSC Charleston's initiative, this new technology was successfully demonstrated as a *proof-of-concept*. The MPD (shown poolside) is a

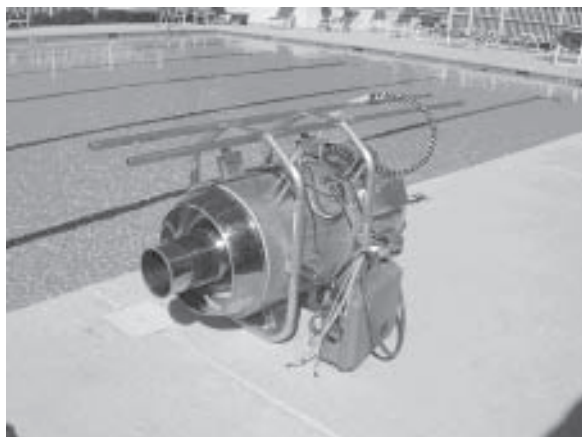
pneumatic version of the linear motor configuration depicted in the sketch (shown here).



Military and commercial applications are limitless — support for NASA and the air and space program; and more efficient machinery and sensors for the warfighter; heart valve replacements and implantation; however, time and money are limiting factors in the development of this first-of-its-kind device.

The MPD creates a paradigm shift in propulsion, and revolutionizes pumps and engines as we know them. This new device, so exciting and so diverse, can be miniaturized and features: No cavitating, fore or aft thrust; no screws or redundant drives; low noise; shaft-free dependency; application scalable; a variety of construction materials; reduced weight and power requirements; electric energy that's non flammable and ecologically compatible; no pressure-sensitive cavities; plug-and-play or stand-alone capabilities with variable operational parameters; reduced life cycle cost; shallow water operation; and better operational control.

SSC Charleston, a catalyst for change, is now part of this revolutionary MPD development, and we're looking for funding sources — a proposal to the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency is being prepared as a small business initiative research; a possible partnership is being sought with the University of Texas at Austin,





# Frey earns Navy, Marine Corps achievement medal



**Lt.Cmdr. Tony Frey, USNR (right), receives an award from Commanding Officer of VP-94, Cmdr. Chris Fox.**

**Tony Frey**, a scientist in the Mobile C4I Systems Branch (J614), recently received the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal while serving as the primary P-3C Tactical Coordinator Naval Aviation and Training Operating Procedures Standardization program instructor for Patrol Squadron 94 from April 2000 to April 2003. Tony, a lieutenant commander in the U.S. Navy Reserve, is a P-3C Orion Naval flight officer with VP-94 in New Orleans, La.

A member of Code 61's TacMobile team, Tony is the

mobile operations control center aircraft interface lead and the tactical common data link project manager.

Tony said, "My reserve affiliation allows me to provide direct Fleet/user input and feedback for TacMobile aircraft interface efforts, including P-3C Orion Maritime Patrol Aircraft, Multimission Maritime Aircraft, and Broad Area Maritime Surveillance Unmanned Air Vehicle. What I do during the week here directly relates to my flying, since we support P-3 aircraft."

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## 'Squid-like' propulsion

**Continued from page 8**

Ocean Engineering Group, and the Naval Surface Warfare Center, Carderock Division. Currently, the Naval Research Lab at the Stennis Space Center in Bay St. Louis, Miss., is investigating the MPD's use with unmanned undersea vessel applications to carry meteorological sensors. We believe unmanned vessel programs, as well as counter drug and force protection environments will greatly benefit from the MPD!

*Note: For further information on the Marine Propulsion Device, please contact Mr. Ismael Cabezas, SPAWAR Systems Center, Charleston at 843-218-5334 or DSN 588-5334.*

# Corporate booth attracts new customers

By Sandy Mieczkowski

*Technical Specifications and Acquisition Branch (J645/Norfolk)*

**T**he SPAWAR community in Norfolk, Va., joined their colleagues from headquarters to support our corporate booth at the U.S. Naval Institute's Eighth Annual Warfare Exposition and Symposium held Oct. 8-9. This year's symposium — "Lessons from the Desert Wars" — was held at the Pavilion Convention Center in Virginia Beach, Va., where the Spring Connecting Technology Conferences were previously held.

The symposium welcomed keynote speaker Adm. William J. Fallon, USN, Commander, Fleet Forces Command, and Commander, U.S. Atlantic Fleet. Prior to assuming this role on Oct. 3, Adm. Fallon served as Vice Chief of Naval Operations. Adm. Fallon, who earned a master's degree in international studies from Old Dominion University in Norfolk, Va., unveiled his thoughts on where the fleet is headed.

Attendees were honored to see and hear our very own Chief of Naval Operations, Admiral Vern Clark. He was very pleased with the symposium's theme: Lessons from the Desert. Adm. Clark said, "...the events of the last year and a half, and most especially the last several months in Operation Iraqi Freedom and earlier in Operation Enduring Freedom, have provided the best battle lab anybody possibly could have put together." He said, "It is absolutely necessary for the Navy and for the whole DoD to dissect, study and analyze them and determine not just what the effects were, but what the causative factors were and are today that are allowing us to do the kinds of things we're doing."

SPAWAR headquarters' Roger Copeland, director of Corporate Communications and Steve Kolbert, Foreign Military Sales case manager, were among the SPAWAR employees staffing the corporate booth. **SSC Norfolk** was well represented with personnel ready to converse on designing, building, implementing and supporting logistics IT infrastructures. **SSC Charleston** representatives included *CHIPS* staff **Sharon Anderson**, senior editor; and **Nancy Reasor**, assistant editor, who distributed *CHIPS*

magazines. Conference management coordinators **Dawn Adams** and **Sandy Mieczkowski** provided information on SPAWAR's commodities. **Tom Calogrides**, senior C4I systems engineer, who also doubles as the command's best-kept-marketing secret, quickly educated us first timers on professional representation. Tom said, "...research shows that you have less than two seconds to capture an exhibit show attendee's attention. After that, it's the information about the command that you possess (**What we can do for you!**) to keep your potential customer interested and wanting more."

SPAWAR headquarters provided a professional booth. It is now up to each area of expertise to provide information and a professional, enthusiastic staff. Let's get out there and make a difference on the SPAWAR booth circuit at every show available to us with all the support it requires.

Marketing SPAWAR reminds me of the old narrative about "**Who's Job Is It?**" The story about four people named Everybody, Somebody, Anybody and Nobody. "*There was an important job to be done and Everybody was sure Somebody would do it. Anybody could have done it, but Nobody did it. Somebody got angry because it was Somebody's job. Everybody thought Somebody could do it but Nobody realized that Everybody wouldn't do it. It ended that Everybody blamed Somebody when Nobody did what Anybody could have done!*" (author unknown)

Well, whether it's in our job description or not, promoting the SPAWAR Command really is Everybody's job. Every day an employee comes in contact with another military or government installation is a great day for SPAWAR's future, if that employee so chooses. As Tom said, "marketing is easiest when you don't need to market!" To put that to a more personal note for each of us, it's comparable to finding a job when you already have one... it's always easier because you don't feel so desperate, and you are in a position to network with everyone you come in contact with in your current position.

# NCR office gets new work center and lab facilities



**Jerry Koenig**, head of the Intelligence and Information Warfare Systems Engineering Department (J70), attended the ribbon cutting ceremony for the Computer Information Systems Engineering Division's (J77) work center and lab facilities at our National Capitol Region office. Under the direc-

tion of **Myra Rice**, the work center is designed to focus on the "shared knowledge" concept of learning. Technical specialists, using a wide variety of software, help one another in the learning process. "When we first decided to build the room, old furniture and computers were do-

nated to get the program off the ground," said **Lisa Bonnaure**, the Information Engineering Branch's (J771) project manager responsible for the work center. After several team members complained about sore necks and arms due to the room's configuration, we were able to purchase ergonomic furniture and new servers, including software for testing purposes. "The lab now contains many of the latest technologies which the software engineers can use," said **Gil Bonnaure**, head of the Advanced Systems Engineering Branch (J773). The teams are very excited and appreciative of the new room's *duds*. Thank you, Mr. Koenig, for making a difference!



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## Rebecca Clark Thomas receives Project Management Professional certification



**Clark Thomas**, who supports our European Office in Stuttgart, Germany, recently earned the designation of Project Management Professional (PMP) from the Project Management Institute (PMI). PMI is the leading professional association for project managers. Clark didn't just pass the exam, she received the second highest score ever for the Munich Testing Center!

The PMP certification is the project management professional's most recognized and respected global credential. To earn PMP certification, an individual must satisfy education and experience requirements, agree to a professional code of conduct, and pass the PMP certification examination. The PMP certification objectively assesses and measures professional knowledge, and validates experience in project management.

Clark manages numerous high visibility and high-dollar C4I projects, putting that PMP certification to work. She is also the team leader for SSC Charleston's support to Joint Forces Command for coalition exercises in Europe.

Congratulations, Clark, for this significant after-hours accomplishment.





# Brenda Thomas

## beat the odds!

*"Realize that your job does not define you, but how you do it does."*

—Brenda Thomas

*By Lynda Silvers  
Chronicle Editor*

The 2003 National Breast Cancer Awareness Month (October) campaign celebrated 18 years of educating women about breast cancer, especially the importance of detecting the disease in its earliest stages through mammography, clinical breast examination, and self-examination. Brenda Thomas had breast cancer and a radical mastectomy on Nov. 2, 1986. Today, she shares her remarkable story every chance she gets.

**Brenda Thomas** is a true survivor in every sense of the word. Webster defines a survivor as one who continues to function or prosper despite ...; and that's exactly how Brenda has lived her life — in spite of much adversity. Her precious baby girl succumbed to sudden infant death syndrome; she had thyroid cancer; and in 1986, she learned she had breast cancer and underwent a radical mastectomy. Brenda is now a 17-year survivor, and she wants to share her story — a story of hope for those currently experiencing the pain and suffering that cancer inflicts, not only on the individual, but also the families, friends, and coworkers.

Brenda learned that she had breast cancer on Oct. 27, 1986. "We had been moving partitions at work and when I discovered a knot under my arm, I thought it was a pulled muscle," Brenda said. "I already had an appointment scheduled to check my thyroid, and the doctor discovered a large mass in my left breast." She was 37 years old and had two young sons (10 and 14). "All I could think was, I'm not ready to die. Please, God, they need me!" Brenda said. "As I prayed, God gave me peace of mind, and I approached it with a positive attitude." She underwent a radical mastectomy and the removal of 48 lymph nodes (three were malignant), and returned to work just two weeks later. She endured 25 radiation treatments during extended lunch breaks, and then came a year of chemotherapy.

"I worked the entire time," Brenda said. "I was determined I would survive. My approach was not to dwell on the cancer; instead my focus was completing treatment and living life. Attitude is half the battle," she said. "You become what you believe and when you're laughing, you believe in the power of life. Laughter made an enormous difference to my attitude and my

survival.”

Brenda enjoyed a large support group who cheered her on. “I thank God for giving me such a wonderful supportive husband (34 years),” she said. “I never had reconstructive surgery — that was never an option for me, but he has never shown it made any difference. I worked and still work with a wonderful group of people. I focused on work and family. I am fortunate that family, friends and coworkers always treated me the same. There were times that I didn’t look very good, but my spirits were great, attitude positive, and my faith and determination unfaltering.”

Through all of her battles, Brenda worked. Not only did she just do her job, she excelled. A native Charlestonian, Brenda joined the former NAVELEX Charleston as a GS-4 clerk-steno in 1978. Today, she is the administrative specialist (DA-III) for the Communication Systems Department (J50). And what was it that helped advance her career? “It was a combination of experience, attitude, hard work, and dedication,” Brenda said. “Also, I was fortunate to have worked with Carl Reeves who recognized my potential and abilities.”

Brenda recently entered a “Cancer Survivor Share Your Story Contest” sponsored by Trident Health System and Comcast Cable. She told her story and was one of five winners (out of 58 entrants). “Our names were announced at a dinner at the Hilton Garden Inn,” Brenda said. “My husband told me I was a finalist and I was thrilled with that because as cancer survivors we were all already winners. I didn’t know it at the time, but he knew I was a winner. During the dinner, I met four other breast cancer survivors. We each stood and talked about our journey — Amy, one year; Lisa, two years; Joyce, two years, Vivian, 13 years; and me, 17 years. We were treated like queens with a wonderful dinner, flowers and a beautiful gift basket. We also won a trip for an exciting weekend at Chateau Élan, a resort, SPA and winery outside of Atlanta, Ga. The trip included a two-night stay for each winner and a guest (my wonderful husband, of course), group transportation to and from



Atlanta, and breakfast and dinner at the Chateau. Comcast aired a four and a half minute commercial the entire month of October that included a picture of all the winners with excerpts from each of our stories.

“Early detection is the key to survival,” Brenda said. “Women need to take responsibility for their own bodies and well being. There are support groups and organizations all over the country, and we are so blessed with wonderful doctors and facilities in Charleston,” she said. “We should take advantage of all the preventive medicine that is available — regular self-exams, mammograms, and support research as we continue the race for the cure for breast cancer.”

Brenda has worked for the same department for 25 years now, and they have been a major part of her support system. In relation to our professional life, Brenda said it better than anyone this editor has ever heard: “Realize that your job does not define you, but how you do it does.” Brenda continued, “Any job can be done well, done with compassion, done with care. Your attitude at work and the way you treat people (even your mood) does not go unnoticed. Attitude has a profound influence on the people you work with. No matter what your job is, find the significance in what you do. Perspective plays a huge role in personal satisfaction and sense of well being. Remember change is not necessarily bad, it is just different. Take a look around, you may find you have a great view. Opportunities exist — keep your eye on your goal.”

Breast cancer is such a personal issue, why did Brenda want to do this interview? “I love sharing my very positive story,” she said. “I convey that there is life after breast cancer. When I was diagnosed, I yearned to hear about survivors — survivors who had malignant nodes like mine, and yet still living years later. It seemed that I only heard about the ones who were lucky, with no malignancies.” Brenda said, “If my story makes a difference to just one person, this is my way of reaching out and touching someone with hope and to convey there is life after breast cancer.”

*Around*



*World*

# Just a 'click-away' from loneliness — SSC Charleston boosts troop morale

*By: Brad Hoisington, Jim Condon, and Brett Huffman*

Since the Sept. 11 attacks, and the resulting Global War on Terrorism, our troops have endured not only the stress of war in Afghanistan and Iraq, but also the stress that comes from being separated from family and friends. The toppling of Saddam Hussein's regime and the subsequent occupation of Iraq created yet another painful separation for our deployed troops and their families. Recognizing this, DoD initiated several programs to improve our troops' quality of life while serving in Iraq; and SSC Charleston was chosen to manage and execute

these programs.

The Combined Joint Task Force Seven (CJTF-7), the senior military command in Iraq and the first program's sponsor, provides high-speed Internet connectivity and voice capabilities to over 132,000 U.S. troops who are part of the CJTF-7. All across Iraq, 145 tactical Internet facilities are being fielded. Each facility includes a satellite terminal, network equipment, 20 laptops, eight Internet protocol (IP) phones, a printer, a 20- by 30-foot military desert tent, tables, chairs, lights, a power distribution unit, and two large air conditioners.

U.S. Army Europe, the second program's sponsor, tasked

SSC Charleston's European office to provide 32 Internet facilities at military base camps spread across Iraq. All U.S. personnel in Iraq who do not belong to the CJTF-7 will use these facilities, which will be installed inside new or existing buildings instead of tents. The same high-speed Internet access will be provided using PCs instead of laptops, and Web cams instead of telephones.

To date, 20 facilities have been commissioned since the first CJTF-7 Morale, Welfare, and Recreation (MWR) Internet facility was brought online in October. Troops can now send and receive free e-mail and make phone calls for just 4.7 cents per minute. All 145 facilities are expected to be operational by Christmas. What a morale booster to have loved ones just a click away.

The MWR Internet facility is the only program in Iraq that offers this type of morale support for our troops—peace of mind, a very necessary and important requirement for sur-



**The new Internet Cafe had a full house on Friday night.**





## Setting up the Internet Cafe in Iraq.

Brad's team, **Patty Stark** (J022), **Terri Bobola** (J09A1), **Wanda Yantek**, and **Betsy Evans** (J09A11) provided support for procurements, receiving, and shipping. Despite normal year-end functions and little advance notice, Patty's procurement team processed almost \$9 million worth of contracts within an extremely short time—resulting in the very timely order and delivery of all material required to support the scheduled installations.

Material receiving and shipping presented a huge challenge, but Terri's material handling division made it happen. **Gary Washington** (J09A12) and his team efficiently handled the large amount of material that quickly flowed into SSC Charleston. They provided additional warehouse space, moved material without complaint, and did whatever was required. Getting the material to Iraq through the Charleston Air Force Base was a challenge that Wanda, Betsy, and the entire shipping department rose to meet; providing delivery to Iraq within seven to eight days. The estimated weight of all materials shipped exceeded 700,000 lbs (350 Tons). We thoroughly appreciate the support provided by the dedicated men and women of the 437th Aerial Port Squadron at Charleston Air Force Base.

**Randy Bryant** (J57), the European Office liaison to Charleston, coordinated the development and award of a \$28 million satellite equipment and services contract and millions of dollars in delivery orders on an existing engineering services contract. The contracting was accomplished by **Bob Meddick**, **Patricia Godwin**, and **Penny Leya** (J0215).

**Jim Scott** (J57), the European Office's chief engineer, and **Tim Mooney** (J571) provide overall management and customer interface. Installation support is provided by **Dave Arellanes**, **Tim Brown**, **Ed Gallagher**, **Lew Durham**, and **Mark Sotheby** (J571) and **Joe Luker** (J572) — most of whom travel intermittently to Iraq.

And last, but certainly not least, the project's success depends heavily on our on-site support in Iraq. **Ken Crawley** (J531) and **Jim Watson** (J561)—who have endured personal sacrifices to support what they feel is a worthwhile cause — have been in Iraq since Sept. 3. They provide on-site logistics, training, and technical support. And our thanks to Sgt. Ben of the Army's 32<sup>nd</sup> Signal Battalion for his assistance.

vival. The facility is such a hit, that in the first five days of November, with only seven percent of the facilities commissioned, over 2,878 calls were made—37,322 minutes of conversation to locations as varied as the troops themselves (e.g., U.S., Germany, South Korea, Puerto Rico, Japan, Dominican Republic, Guam, Mexico, Canada, and the United Kingdom).

## SSC Charleston teams work wonders

SSC Charleston, a large and capable organization, is perfectly suited for this program. Based on location and areas of expertise, resources from across the command were used. When **Jim Condon** (J57), our European Office's senior manager, received the tasking, he immediately contacted other people within our organization to find the most capable and available to join the team. **Brad Hoisington** (J545), the first team leader, chose **Steve Nielsen** (J545), **Corey Smith** (J541), **Andy Lambert** (J541), and **Bob Davis** (J531) to provide *reach-back* support in the areas of engineering, procurements, and logistics. They coordinated the facility's design layout, identified power and environmental requirements, found material sources, and ensured the correct material was procured. Additionally, they coordinate handling the extraordinary amount of required material. The EMA, Inc. team, headed by **Barbra Perry**, provided excellent support.

Two of our new professionals, **Corey Smith** and **Andy Lambert**, created a full-system mock up in Charleston. Their efforts, which directly contribute to this project's success, allowed us to identify and resolve numerous technical issues prior to shipping the first system to Iraq.

Numerous command team members went beyond the call of duty supporting this effort. Coordinating through

## SSC Charleston and the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) help rebuild Iraq

In addition to the two SPAWAR Europe MWR programs, **Brett Huffman** (J544) received tasking from USAID to support the Coalition Provisional Authority (CPA). CPA's mission is to help rebuild Iraq and establish a new Iraqi government. SSC Charleston's tasking is to provide satellite based IP voice and data connectivity between elements of the new Iraqi government and between Iraqi power stations until Iraqi terrestrial infrastructure is put in place.

We are interconnecting ten ministries, governing council, and 18 Governates via satellite communication systems. The ministries in Baghdad will be able to communicate amongst themselves and their representatives in the 18 Governates located around the country. The program also provides a complete working office—computers, telephones, and fax machines—in each location.

The Commission of Electricity headquarters will be able to communicate with 41 other subordinate locations around Iraq to reestablish their power infrastructure. Installations, which began in November, are scheduled for completion in late January 2004.

The collective team in Charleston supports Brett's role as lead on the USAID projects; however, the two primary people in Europe and Iraq are **Jim Scott** and **Ed Gallagher**. **Greg Daugherty**, head of M.C. Dean Europe, and his team provide the industry support and the maintenance support to the two MWR programs.

These programs are perfect examples of what SSC Charleston can do when it functions as a team. Every person's commitment and follow-through is acknowledged and recognized as indispensable. **A JOB WELL DONE** to all who participated — *Excellence Through Teamwork!*



**Equipment bound for Internet Cafes.**

# New website designed for students helps with transition and deployment

By Dr. Jean Silvernails  
Office of the Secretary of Defense



The DoD wrestled with an enormous problem: how to support the 1.5 million school-aged children of military families constantly moving from school to school, or dealing with the challenges of parents being deployed. Not only do the 1.5 million students require information, but also parents, teachers and military leaders in order to provide appropriate assistance. To accommodate this diverse population across the globe, DoD thoughts turned to technology. The solution became [www.militarystudent.org](http://www.militarystudent.org); created by the DoD, Navy LifeLines and SSC Charleston's

to be a one-stop location for transition and deployment information targeting the social, emotional and educational concerns of military children. The site's overall purpose "is to help Service members' children succeed within the framework of the military lifestyle," Molino commented. "This website represents the Department's commitment to facilitate success for our military children."

The website enables military children and teens to access tips and information to help them cope with family moves and military parent deployments, adapt to new schools, and make new friends. The kids' chat room and teen message forum will enhance the ability of students to share their own experiences with their peers.

Today's global war on terrorism has brought the issue of deployment to the front burner for military families. "In an age of increased deployments, it is important to have this information on the website," Molino said. "The war has made school districts more aware of the concerns of military families." Therefore, the website section for educators features Best Practices, a compilation of successful programs that are designed to accommodate military mobile students in the classroom. There are teacher guidebooks for military children in deployment and reunion, and classroom techniques to promote coping skills and student support.

Parents will discover a section specially designed to address their needs including state education requirements, scholarship information, and social and emotional needs of children after a move. A number of guidebooks are also available to help parents support their children through deployment and reunion transitions.

The potential of the website was contagious. Navy LifeLines and SPAWAR NCR personnel assigned to the

**Top photo: Code 77 software engineers for MilitaryStudent.org (l-r) John Dideum, Twanna Price, Shawn Young, Renie Paredes, and Lisa Bonnaure, project manager.**

**Bottom photo: Dr. Jean Silvernail (seated right), OASD sponsor of the Military Student.org website; Jessica Gary, OSAD intern (seated left); and Lisa Bonnaure, SPAWAR NCR Code 771 project manager.**



National Capitol Region (NCR) Office. "The emergence of the web," pointed out John Molino, Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Military Community and Family Policy, "has been an excellent opportunity for us to take advantage of the technology, provide the information, and grow from there."

Seven websites in one, [militarystudent.org](http://militarystudent.org), has separate sections for children, teenagers, parents, families with special needs, military leaders and educators. It is intended

**See 'New Website' on page 21**



# Team



**The MEWSS-LSU team (pictured l-r): Dave Wilhelm, Gerald Huckabee, and Dale Mann (SRC); Paula Miller, J713 life cycle sustainment manager; Mark Stokes, SRC project manager; and Major Prior, U.S.M.C. program manager. Not pictured is Gregg Cromer, J713 project manager.**

*By Paula Miller*

*Special Exploitation Systems Engineering Branch (J713)*

The U.S. Marine Corps Systems Command tasked SSC Charleston's Special Exploitation Systems Engineering Branch to design, install and provide logistics support for the Mobile Electronic Warfare Support System—Legacy System Upgrades (MEWSS-LSU) program.

The MEWSS-LSU restores supportability and functionality to the light armored vehicle while simultaneously upgrading system capabilities. It also provides the capability to detect enemy emissions, determine lines of bearing, and degrade enemy tactical radio communications during amphibious assaults and subsequent mechanized shore operations for the Marine Air-Ground Task Forces.

While being implemented in block upgrades, this program takes advantage of the latest technology and enables fielding within a compressed time frame. Block 0A upgrades to MEWSS vehicles in the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Radio Battalions have been successfully completed.

**A very special thanks to Deborah Hirschhorn who coordinated, designed and published the Special Edition of *The Chronicle*, August 2003. Deb is a graphics designer, writer, and editor in the Strategic Planning Office (J0D).**



# Graduates join 'New Professionals' program

By Deborah Hirschhorn

Strategic Planning Office (J0D-DH)

The New Professionals Program is one of the tools we are using to ensure our workforce is ready for the future. It allows us to hire recently graduated engineers and scientists without jumping through *quite* as many hoops

as usual. The new professionals spend two years in the program, getting classroom and on-the-job training as well as practical experience. See the August special edition of *The Chronicle* for details.

Questions or comments regarding the New Professionals Program may be directed to Dr. Carol Smith at 843-218-5149 or carol.f.smith@navy.mil.

We welcome the new professionals hired since the special edition was published.



**Jerri Baeumel**  
Christopher Newport  
University 2002  
Information Science  
Suffolk, Va.



**Scott W. Rogers**  
University of Central Fla. 2002  
Computer Engineering  
Fairport, N.Y.



**D. Carey Coleman**  
College of Charleston 2003  
Computer Science  
Charleston, S.C.



**Brian Tamburello**  
Va. Commonwealth  
University 2003  
Computer Science  
Virginia Beach, Va.



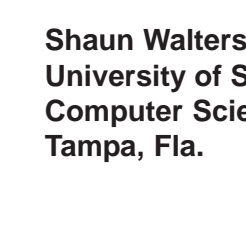
**Antoine C. Etchene**  
University of South Fla. 2002  
Electrical Engineering  
Tampa, Fla.



**Hai Vo**  
University of Central Fla. 2003  
Computer Engineering  
Orlando, Fla.



**Ryan Harrington**  
University of S.C. 2003  
Computer Science  
Summerville, S.C.



**Shaun Walters**  
University of South Fla. 2003  
Computer Science  
Tampa, Fla.



**Mike Hixson**  
Va. Polytechnic Institute and  
State University 2003  
Computer Science  
Bethlehem, Pa.



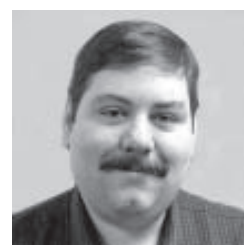
**Curtis White**  
Mary Washington College 2003  
Computer Science  
Centreville, Va.

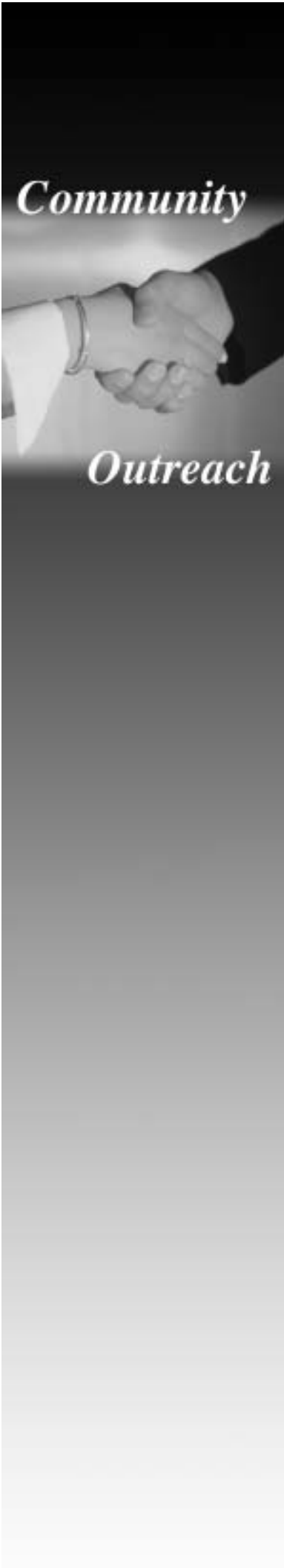


**Joel Mandigo**  
University of Central Fla. 2001  
Computer Engineering  
Orlando, Fla.



**Steve M. Wilson**  
University of Md. 2002  
Computer Information  
and Science  
Upper Marlboro, Md.





# Students attend technology symposium



On Oct. 22, students from Laing and West Ashley Middle Schools gathered at SSC Charleston's main engineering center for a day of learning about today's latest technology. They heard presentations about the history of computers and computer modeling. They participated in a video teleconference with the Johnson Space Center, and saw a demonstration of the pocketscope, a device that gives our warfighters a high-tech edge. The students also enjoyed lunch in the Cooper River Cafe and some one-on-one time with the engineers.

Thanks to **Bill Sanders**, end-to-end test engineer (J52A), and **Carole Venning** in the Public Affairs Office who coordinated the event. And a special thanks to those who provided presentations, demonstrations, information, and inspiration: **Valerie Sessions, Kathy Klinar, Shaespeer Etienne, Marquis Sailor, Gregg Schneider, Tom Reiff, Howard Ash, Randall Dunn, and Marilene Guardia Baker.**



# Proud to Be an American

By David Parker

Hanahan Middle School, 7<sup>th</sup> Grade

I am proud to live in the great land of freedom, the United States of America. We have had in the past liberty, the ability to help many other nations, and have made many contributions to the worldwide economy. Life without the United States would be devastating. We are a country that cares for our people, for our neighbors, for people of other countries in need; we even care for our enemies.

The United States was one of the first republic nations. We fought against communism. We have the freedom of speech, which allows us the ability to state what we want. We have the freedom of speech, to say anything we want to say about our leaders. We have the freedom of press, the freedom to write anything we want. The Bill of Rights' allows American people these rights, and they are for all our citizens.

The war with Iraq has made a dent in the lives of our people. We lose about one soldier a day. Even though we are at war, we go and help them build back the damage we have done. We show them that all we want to do is to help them in their pain caused by Saddam. We have helped many nations like Japan, South Korea, Taiwan and many more.

Our inventions have made a worldwide impact. The light bulb, the telephone, the computer, and the automobile are major and crucial advances. If we did not have the telephone we would have to visit and deliver all information by mail. Many families are split apart and they can't visit or mail would take too long. With the telephone, they can call and talk freely. Without the automobile we would have to walk everywhere or ride for hours, getting late to jobs and putting many people out of jobs. The computer is just the same as the telephone. You can hold much more information and use the Internet for so many things. The light bulb allows us to see without candle light, it is much more efficient and less trouble.

America has been known for many things. Some of these things are helpful inventions, great people, the caring for other nations. We are mostly known for our freedom, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. I believe that freedom will always be the most important value America will ever have. I am so proud to be an American!

**Editor's Note:** *The above editorial earned first place recognition in SSC Charleston's annual Patriotic Essay Contest for Hanahan Middle School students. This year's topic was "I am proud to be an American because..." Stephanie Brenner (7th grade) and Cassandra Horton (8th grade) earned second and third place honors. All 160 entries were displayed at the Ralph H. Johnson VA Medical Center during Veteran's Day celebrations in November.*

## New Website

Continued from page 17

project began to take a personal interest in its development. "It is evident that this project became an emotional investment," said Dr. Jean Silvernail, DoD coordinator. "Everyone at Navy LifeLines and SPAWAR identified with these kids and their issues—either because they had been a *military brat*, raised one, or realized the necessity of their work due to the climate of the times. These kids never picked the occupation of their parents, but it profoundly affects their daily lives. The compassion and dedication to this website by its creators is astounding."

## VA launches 'kids page' web site

American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON, Nov. 5, 2003 - The Department of Veterans Affairs announced the launch of "VA Kids" today, a new Web page designed to help young people understand what it means to be a veteran. "The ideals of military service and patriotism can be unfamiliar to some children and young adults," said Secretary of Veterans Affairs Anthony J. Principi. "The VA Kids Web page supports President Bush's initiatives on education and volunteerism by providing an entertaining and informative way for young people to learn why veterans are special." The site [<http://www.va.gov/kids>], contains areas for students in kindergarten through Grade 5, for Grades 6 through 12, and for teachers. VA Kids also has information about VA, Veterans Day, scholarships, student volunteer opportunities, rehabilitative and special events for disabled veterans and links to veteran-related sites.

For younger students, the site has interactive activities such as puzzles, coloring pages, matching contests and age-appropriate language to describe a number of patriotic topics. For older students, the page has information on volunteer programs, scholarships and more sophisticated educational resources, games and reference links. The teachers' section contains more information, links and suggested classroom activities. "The title 'veteran' is bestowed by a grateful nation on citizens willing to sacrifice everything to preserve our freedom," Principi said. "It is our responsibility to honor these heroes by ensuring that each American generation understands what this prestigious title means."

*Special*

*Visitors*

**Right: Rear Admiral David Antanitus, Director, Installations and Logistics (SPAWAR 04), SPAWAR Command checks out the Internet Cafe.**



**Below: Capt. Pope greets Gene Taylor, U.S. Congressman, 4th District of Mississippi.**

**Below right: James Ward talks to Steve Derganc, Joint Interoperability and Integration, U.S. Joint Forces Command.**



**Left: Francis Alston talks to Dr. Rich Jaffee, SSC San Diego.**



**Below left: Senator Lindsey Graham is greeted by Mike Kutch and James Ward.**



**Below right: Capt. Pope and Adjutant General of South Carolina, Major General Stanhope S. Spears, meet in front of the main engineering center.**



## Chronicle editor retires — opens new life chapter



Saying good-bye to someone — or something — that you love is never easy. And so it is with very mixed emotions that I made the decision to retire. I love my job and the people that I come into contact with on a daily basis. I've enjoyed all the interviews I've been a part of over the years; and learning about the wonderful things this organization does in support of freedom has been an amazing adventure. Thanks to everyone who was a part of that.

I've always considered myself to be the command's biggest cheerleader. It's been my job for the past 11 years to tell our story, to *chronicle* our accomplishments, and to brag about our people — to cheer on the good work, whether on the Web, in our newsletter or brochures. With every issue of *The Chronicle*, I began with a blank sheet of paper, but there was never a time when I couldn't find something good to report — thanks to you.

My civil service career began way back in 1964 (I was only 10, of course) when I was hired right out of business college as a GS-4 clerk-stenographer at Industrial Manager Sixth Naval District, the embryo of NAVELEX and SSC Charleston. I've been a part of this organization all of its life, and practically all of mine. It may sound a bit corny, but SPAWAR is very near and dear to my heart. After all, I met and married the love of my life here nearly 27 years ago.

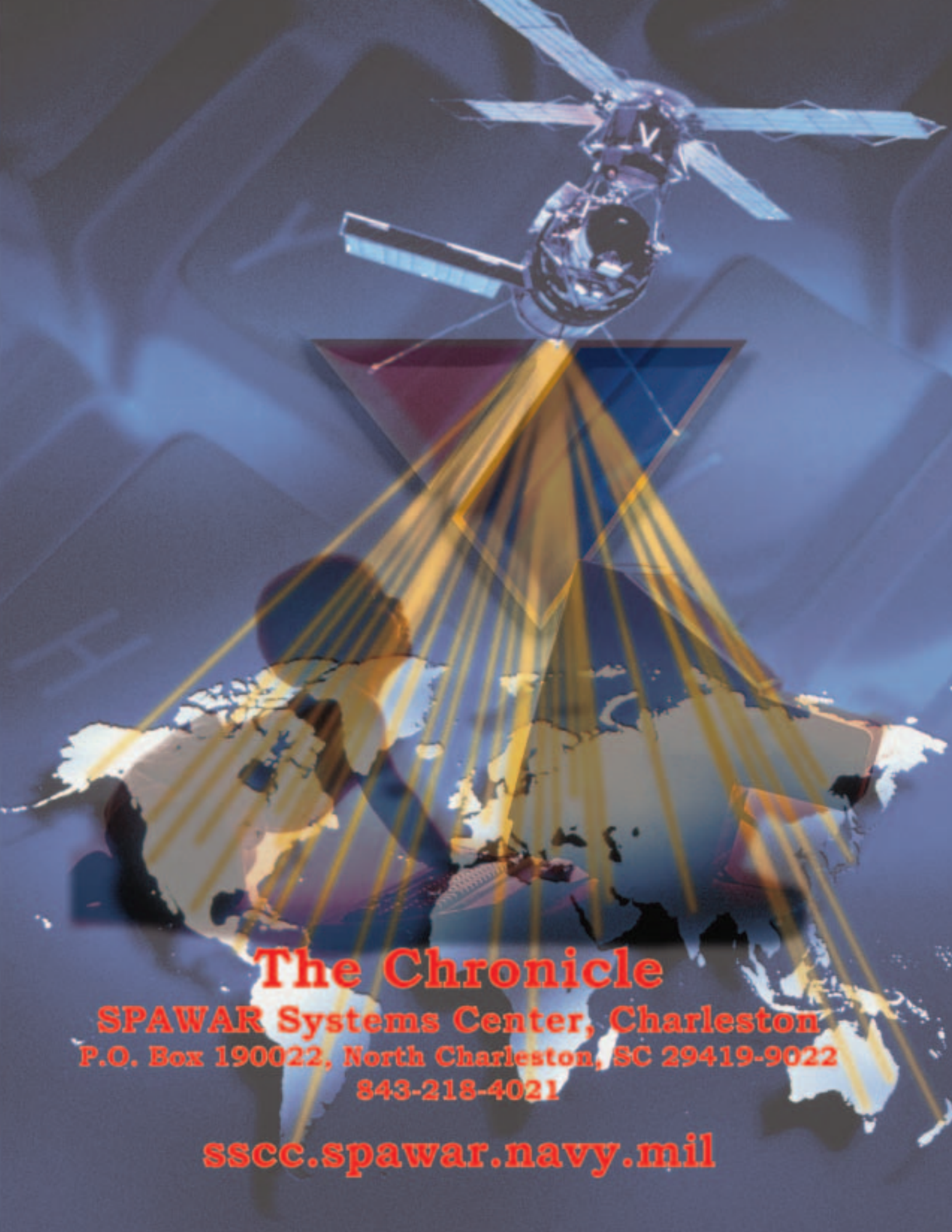
My very first supervisor told me "what we do here is keep the fleet afloat." I never forgot that. And after all these years, that's still what it's all about — keeping the fleet afloat. We're here for the sailors, the warfighters, and the peace keepers, and I'm proud to have been a part of that. And I'm so very proud of the people who comprise the Business Resources and Information Office (JOA6). It was never my aspiration to supervise, but these people — **Harold Senn**, **Arliene Sports**, **Jim Ellicott**, and **Sherri VonBehren** — are true professionals in every sense of the word. They made the experience enjoyable, and I will definitely miss them. I would be remiss if I didn't thank my wonderful boss — **Bob Kappler** — the epitome of empowerment. I truly appreciate his guidance, support, and trust. We made a good team.

But now, I'm about to enter the next chapter of my life — and I'm excited. A little frightened, but excited nonetheless. I can't, however, believe I'm this old! Retirement is for old people, right? Well, not exactly. Retirement is for enjoying all the stuff you've collected over the years, but didn't have time to use; for doing what you want to do, when you want to do it; for traveling; for renewing old friendships and making new ones; and for taking care of family — all the important stuff in life.

January 30 is my last day on the job, but SPAWAR will always be a significant part of my life. So many of you have touched and influenced my life over the years. I don't dare start naming all the people who befriended me, counseled me, mentored me, helped my career, shared my joys and my sorrows, laughed with me and cried with me. You know who you are, and I love you all. Take care of yourselves and each other.

— Lynda S. Silvers





# **The Chronicle**

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